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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

PROJECT OUTLINE

CRYPTONYM: ABOJ
AREA DIVISION: SR
STATION: Headquarters

HEADQUARTERS CASE OFFICER:

Room No. 2607 J Building

Extension 8545

Date 3 October 1956

The attached Project Outline is presented for renewal.

Concur:

Acting Chief, FI/OPS Division

Date

Chief, SR/2

SR/COP/FY

Chief, SR Division

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
CLASSIFICATION

~~Confidential~~

Changed to Secret

BY AUTHORITY OF

Name

DATE

16 FEB 1962

21 Nov 56
Date

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PROJECT OUTLINE

CRYPTONYM: AECOB

Part I

1. Area of Operations

Latvia.

2. Purpose

To gather positive and operational intelligence from Latvia by means of REDSOX operations.

3. Background

a. This Project was originally developed by OPG/EE under Project ZRLYNCH and, in August 1952, was presented to the FI Staff as Project AECOB. The Project was then designed to include both FI and PP operations in Latvia and had, as a secondary objective, the working with Latvian emigre groups outside the target area, in support of these operations. Project AECOB was first approved on 24 October 1952 by Chief, FI, for the period from 1 October 1952 to 30 September 1953. The amount was \$82,000. (the PP budget called for an additional \$52,450, making a total of \$134,000).

b. An Amendment to Project AECOB, dated 31 October 1952 and approved by Chief, FI, on 3 November 1952, provided for special bonuses and other benefits for the agents to be dispatched into Latvia. No increase in funds was requested in this Amendment.

c. A "Brief of Clarification" on the use of operational expenses was approved by Chief, Plans, and, subject to the provisions of the memorandum from Chief, Plans, dated 10 August 1953, the sum of \$10,000 (out of an approved \$30,000 for operational expenses) was allotted for use in setting up the "cover society" to spot and recruit Latvians in the United States.

d. An extension of Project AECOB was approved on 12 December 1953 by Chief, Plans, for the period from 1 October 1953 to 31 January 1954. No additional funds were requested.

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e. DC/FI approved a second extension of Project AECOB for the period from 1 February 1954 to 31 March 1954. Funds in the amount of \$18,000 were approved in this extension. As of 1 July 1953, there were no PP allocations for Project AECOB, and it thus is strictly an FI project. As for the "cover society" described in paragraph c above, which was previously a part of Project AECOB, it has now been disassociated from this Project and operates as a separate project under AEMARSH.

f. A request for approval of Project AECOB (Amendment and Renewal) dated 26 April 1954 was approved by Chief, Plans, and concurred in by Chief, FI, on 30 April 1954. The total cost approved was \$47,075. The approval period was from 1 April 1954 to 31 March 1955.

g. A request for an amendment to Project AECOB, dated 4 October 1954 and approved on 20 July 1954, involved an outright payment of 250 DM to the common-law wife of AECAMUSO/3 for a debt she had incurred as a result of hospitalization.

h. A request for an amendment to Project AECOB, dated 4 October 1954 and approved 15 October 1954, sought approval of an additional allotment of \$5,600 to provide additional payments to AECAMUSO/2. We proposed to make these payments to him while he was being debriefed in the United States, over a period of approximately 6 months. This had been authorized, in principle, in Project AECOB, Amendment and Renewal, section 5 (3) as approved by Chief, Plans and concurred in by Chief, FI, on 30 April 1954. However, the sum was not included in the total cost of the Project. *Cost Society*

i. A request for an amendment to Project AECOB, dated 28 September 1954, to provide payment of the sum of \$3,000 in death benefits in accordance with Section 1 (c) of the contract with AECAMUSO/1, to be disposed of pursuant to the provisions of the agent's will (on file in SR/2), was approved by Chief, FI, on 15 October 1954.

j. A request for amendment to Project AECOB, dated 9 February 1955, to provide authorization of an additional \$60,000 for operational currency, rubles, was approved by BDP/COP on 18 February 1955.

k. A request for extension of Project AECOB from 1 April 1955 to 31 May 1955, dated 30 March 1955, was approved by Chief, FI, on 2 May 1955.

l. A request for extension of Project AECOB, from 1 June 1955 through 31 July 1955, dated 2 June 1955, was approved by Chief, FI, on 6 July 1955.

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m. A request for approval of Project AECOB (Renewal) dated 17 May 1955, was approved by Chief, Plans, and concurred in by Chief, FI, on 25 November 1955. The total cost approved was \$26,323. The approval period was from 1 August 1955 through 31 July 1956. ✓

n. A request for amendment of Project AECOB, dated 16 May 1956 and approved 1 June 1956, requested authority to obligate \$11,000 from the BD/P - SR Division budget, thus raising the total authorization for Project AECOB to \$37,323. The additional funds were required to cover the cost of rubles for supplying AECOB agents. ✓

4. Objectives and Tasks

a. To exfiltrate two of our REDSOX agents from Latvia and bring them to the US for extensive debriefings. ✓

b. To infiltrate a sufficient amount of operational funds and equipment to provide long-term support for our existing internal assets. ✓

c. It is expected that the successful implementation of tasks a and b, above, will enable us to preserve these existing assets, enlarge the scope of their activities, and develop and expand their networks while concurrently maintaining proper compartmentation. ✓

d. In the event of a hot war, it is expected that these assets will be readily convertible to hot-war assignments and will be so utilized in order to fulfill our requirements in so far as possible. ✓

5. Coordination

Coordination with the Air-Maritime Division, WE Division, and EE Division will be required. ✓

6. Personnel

a. Personnel presently active under Project AECOB:

1) AECAMUSO/2 is a Latvian who held various jobs in Latvia prior to World War II. During 1943-1945 he served in the Latvian Legion. When the collapse of the German Army appeared imminent, AECAMUSO/2 deserted the Legion and joined the Partisans to continue the fight against the USSR. He fled to Sweden and was recruited in 1951. He was trained and dispatched on a mission into Latvia in August 1952. In spite of a skirmish with the Soviets in which he lost a major portion of his equipment as well

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as his companion, AECAMUSO/1, he has managed to survive and continues to operate. He is in contact with us by S/W while we transmit to him by W/T. Operational Clearance, no number assigned, was granted 13 November 1951.

to come out
(3) 2) AECAMBARO/2 finished High School in Riga and served in the Police Department. The Police Department was later incorporated into the Latvian Legion. AECAMBARO/2 deserted at the time of the collapse of the German Army and organized the Latvian Contacts Group which was involved in a number of operational schemes in Sweden. He was recruited there by us in 1951 and taken to Germany along with AECAMUSO/1 and AECAMUSO/2. He, in turn, recruited AECAMUSO/3 in Germany and participated in the training of the AECAMUSOS. He was brought to the United States in November 1952 where he took part in training AEBIAS/2. He was trained in the spring of 1954 and dispatched in May 1954 on a mission into Latvia. The primary purpose of his mission was to effect the exfiltration of AECAMUSO/2. AECAMBARO/2 was granted Covert Security Clearance #7281 on 4 November 1952 and Operational Clearance #7704 on 14 January 1954.

drop
(4) 3) AECOB/1, a former member of the Latvian Legion, at present is a locksmith and mechanic in Latvia, who has access to various government buildings in connection with his work. He was recruited in Latvia by AECAMUSO/2 who briefed and trained him in clandestine operations and techniques and turned over to him an S/W system and a two-way letter communications channel for communication with us. A Waiver of Clearance for his utilization by us was approved by Chief, FI, in October 1954.

drop
(5) 4) AECOB/2, a former member of the Latvian Legion, at present is a garage manager in Latvia, with access to an automobile and to travel documents. He was recruited in Latvia by AECAMUSO/2 who briefed and trained him in clandestine operations and techniques. He will turn over any positive intelligence he collects to AECOB/1 who will transmitt it to us. A Waiver of Clearance for his utilization by us was approved by Chief, FI, in October 1954.

drop
(6) 5) AECOB/3 is a former member of the Latvian Legion and is presently employed as a school teacher. He was recruited in Latvia and has been trained by AECAMBARO/2 in clandestine operations and is capable of receiving W/T; he has been given a Signal Plan, W/T receiver, cipher pads, S/W inks and mail drops. A Waiver of Clearance for his utilization by us was approved by Chief, FI, in October 1954.

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① 6) AECOB/4 is a former member of the Latvian Legion and a trained agent for German Intelligence during the first Soviet Occupation (1940-1941). He is believed to have extensive contacts with other former German agents and ex-Legionnaires. He was contacted locally by AECAMBARO/2 in late August 1954, trained in S/W techniques, and provided with operational currency, S/W developer and a letter drop. A Waiver of Clearance for his utilization by SR/2 was approved by Chief, FI, in October 1954. ✓

to come out
7) AECAMUSO/3 is a Latvian who has worked as a farm hand and a lumberjack. He avoided all military service and at the end of World War II he went to Germany as a DP, US Zone. He was recruited early in 1952, was trained and dispatched on a mission into Latvia in August 1952. He is regularly in W/T contact with us but all the indications are that he is under Soviet control. Operational Clearance, no number, dated 28 February 1952, was granted for his utilization. ✓

b. The following personnel are no longer carried by the project:

1) AECAMUSO/1, an agent who was dispatched on a mission to Latvia in August 1952. He has never been heard from since and, on the basis of this and other evidence, is presumed to be dead. His contract has been terminated and his estate has been disposed of in accordance with the provisions of his will (on file in SR/2). ✓

2) AEBIAS/2, who was dispatched on a mission to Latvia in May 1953. He has never been heard from since and is presumed to be dead. His contract has been terminated and all benefits and obligations due him have been transmitted to his surviving heirs. There are no problems remaining in this case. ✓

See also memo 8 Jan 55
attached
7. Cover

All infiltrated agents have been provided with legends based upon documentation and other items of cover authentication available to TBS. Since the two agents to be exfiltrated will be brought in "Black", no documentation will be necessary for their entry into the United States. The internally recruited agents are all legal residents of Latvia. They have employment in the areas in which they live; thus, they all have natural cover. ✓

8. Contact

W/T and S/W contact is maintained between Headquarters and the two agents, AECAMBARO/2 and AECAMUSO/2, slated for exfiltration. Contact with the legally residing, internally recruited, agents will be by

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S/W and W/T and is in the process of being developed. A minimum degree of contact has already been established by our transmittal of S/W to AECOBs 1 and 4 and W/T to AECOB/3. Subsequent to a detailed debriefing of AECAMBARO/2 and AECAMUSO/2, and on the basis of careful analyses of messages received from the internal agents, it will be possible to determine better to what extent they can best be utilized in the light of their individual capabilities.

9. Control and Motivation

A certain degree of control exists over AECAMUSO/2 and AECAMBARO/2 in that they are forced to rely upon ^{our} initiative and facilities in order to be able to exfiltrate successfully. Moreover, their accumulated salaries, as well as any eventual bonus payments are under our direct control. A further controlling factor--at least in the case of AECAMBARO/2--is that he desires to become a permanent resident of the US, a wish which we are presumably in a position either to grant or to reject. The only control we are able to exercise over our legal resident, ^{internally recruited}, agents is by furnishing them with financial support and by providing them with an opportunity whereby they are able to take an active part in the campaign for the liberation of Latvia.

AECAMBARO/2 and AECAMUSO/2 are both motivated by a passionate hatred for the Soviet occupiers of their country and the oppressors of their fellow countrymen. They are nationalists and patriots. The legal resident agents ~~were all recruited~~ by AECAMBARO/2 and AECAMUSO/2 on the basis of these same criteria. As far as can be judged from available information, the internal agents are all motivated more or less by feelings of nationalism, anti-Communism, and a sincere desire to take an active part in the fight against Communism.

10. Logistics

a. Equipment

The following equipment has been obtained and is packaged and on hand in Frankfurt ready for infiltration into Latvia:

- 1 - RS 6 W/T set, complete.
- 1 - Automatic sequence camera, batteries, charger and film.
- 1 - Sarah homing beacon and 2 spare batteries.
- 12 - Blank Soviet passports and Voyennye Bilety as well as an ample supply of other related documents, rubber and dry cachets, inks, etc.
- 400,000 rubles
- Drugs and antibiotics.

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b. Support

Present plans involve an overland exfiltration for the two agents and the necessary support has or will be obtained from TSS and COS, Frankfurt. Should an overland exfiltration prove unfeasible, the Air-Maritime Division may be called upon to furnish a sterile Beaver aircraft and a qualified two-man crew to operate it. They may also be called upon to furnish a suitable aircraft and crew for air-dropping the operational equipment above. Separate approval will be requested in the event air support becomes necessary. ✓

11. Time table

Approval of this project is requested for the period from 1 August through 31 July 1957. Preparations for the exfiltration are currently being developed and a tentative date has been set for early autumn 1956.

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CRYPTONYM: AECOB

PART II

12. Estimated Costs

a. Salary for AECAMUSO/2	\$ 2,400.00 ✓
b. Salary for AECAMUSO/3	1,200.00 ✓
c. Payments to AECAMUSO/3's Wife	1,800.00
d. Salary for AECAMBARO/2.	6,000.00 ✓
e. Bonus for AECAMUSO/2.	4,200.00 ✓
f. Bonus for AECAMBARO/2	5,000.00
g. Travel.	4,000.00
h. Facilities.	1,320.00
i. Foreign Currency.	5,000.00
j. Operational Entertainment	500.00
k. Development of Assets, Debriefing & Handling.	4,460
Costs	5,000.00
Salary AECOB/10 @ \$60/mo 720	540
TOTAL	\$36,520.00

/per c/2

13. Special Problems and Commitments

- 1) The following commitments have been made to AECAMBARO/2:

Payment of salary at the rate of \$6,000 per annum while he is on his mission.
Payment of a bonus of \$5,000 upon his exfiltration.
Payment of \$10,000 for death or disability in accordance with a death or disability clause in his contract. A request for the approval of payment of this latter amount will be submitted separately, as an amendment to this Project, should the need arise.

- 2) The following commitments have been made to AECAMUSO/2:

The payment of a bonus at the completion of his mission calculated at the rate of \$500 for each 6 months spent in the target area in accordance with the terms of his contract.

- 3) The following commitments have been made to AECAMUSO/3:

Prior to the dispatch of AECAMUSO/3, we promised him that we would provide as much assistance as was within reason to facilitate the emigration to the United States of his common-law wife and son

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who are presently living in Augsburg, Germany. She had applied for immigration under the DP program, but such action was suspended when AECAMUSO/3 was recruited. We feel that her removal to the United States is advisable for security reasons. ~~Action to have her application processed under the Refugee Act has been initiated.~~ The agent's contract, Section 1, provides for payment of \$150 a month to this woman upon her arrival in the US. This amount now appears to be inadequate from both an economic and a security standpoint. However, no special provisions will be made for the present. At such time as she may arrive in the US, arrangements for additional funds will be made separately by requesting an amendment to this Project. ~~Communications will be maintained with AECAMUSO/3, and every effort will be made to continue to keep him active as long as possible. By tailoring the traffic to him in such a fashion that the responses would require actual consultation with him, it is felt possible he may be enabled to survive indefinitely.~~

- 4) Plans for the disposal and/or resettlement of AECAMUSO/2 and AECAMBARO/2 after their exfiltration will be formulated at the conclusion of their debriefings.

5)

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1 August 1956

MATERIEL AND FACILITIES REQUIREMENTS ANNEX

PROJECT AECOB - FI EXTENSION

Logistics support is not required for Project AECOB - FI as submitted for extension for the period 1 August 1956 through 31 October 1956.

[Chief, SR/Logistics]

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24 July 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Foreign Intelligence

VIA : Projects Branch

SUBJECT : Request for Project AECOB Extension

1. It is requested that the operational authority of Project AECOB be extended from 1 August 1956 through 31 October 1956 in the total amount of \$10,500.00.

2. A new Project outline has been prepared and will be submitted through the proper channels. This request for extension is being submitted inasmuch as the Project expires on 31 July 1956 and it is considered desirable that no interruption of AECOB activities occur.

[Chief, SR Division]

APPROVED: _____

Chief, FI

Date

[] ejb

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16 October 1956

MATERIEL AND FACILITIES REQUIREMENTS ANNEX

PROJECT AECOB - FI

I. MATERIEL

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A. ZI - none

B. Offshore - none

II. FACILITIES

A. ZI

1. Rental of two safehouses for 6 months @ \$110/mo. ea. **\$1,320**

B. Offshore - none

TOTAL

\$1,320

III. SUMMARY - The logistics support for Project AECOB - FI as presented for renewal for period from 1 August 1956 through 31 July 1956 consists of \$1,320 for facilities.

Chief, SR/Logistics

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